

**City of Takoma Park**  
**THE MONTGOMERY COLLEGE NEIGHBORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes**

November 29, 2005

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The City of Takoma Park Montgomery College Neighbors Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, November 29th, 2005 in the Provost's Office Conference Room on the Montgomery College Campus, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Members Present:	Arlene Markowicz, Richard Weil, Morelyn Weisman, Kathy Jentz, Lorraine Pearsall, Paul Chrostowski, James Evans, Sally Brucker
Members Absent:	Bernard Aronson, Stacy Gurian-Sherman, Frances Phipps
Staff Present:	Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner
Others Present:	Brad Stewart, Provost, Howard Stanley, Director of Facilities, Jennie Wells

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1.     **The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM**
2.     **Minutes**

After a discussion and minor changes the minutes were unanimously adopted.

3.     **Discussion and Adoption of Bylaws**

Parking Removed from King Street (Brad Stewart):

Q: Have you noticed any changes in parking in the neighborhood when 71 spaces were removed from the parking lot on King Street (old bakery) on November 14<sup>th</sup>?

A: We have seen no change.

We are hoping to add approx 30 spaces on the lot at Georgia & Burlington after December 5<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a construction on New York Avenue between Chicago and Takoma Avenue. Montgomery College will present the plan to the committee and neighborhood. Dave Capp and John McLean would like to meet with the neighborhood to discuss what will happen to New York Avenue while they install utilities. Some of the work will occur on the eastern side of New York

Avenue in the right of way. Construction may last the entire summer, beginning late May and ending in August.

The meeting for the construction on New York Avenue will be December 13<sup>th</sup> with Dave Capp and John McLean, at 7 PM in the Bliss Room, Montgomery County Commons.

Howard Stanley will call SHA about the pothole on Fenton.

#### **4. Meeting Dates**

Facilities Master Plan Subcommittee on December 8<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, 2005 1PM at Jim Evan's house.

New York Avenue construction meetings will be on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM in the Bliss Room, Montgomery College Commons.

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 6 PM in the Provost's Office Conference room.

Subcommittee meetings are subject to open meetings act. Therefore, an announcement, preferably one week prior to the meeting, should be posted in a public place and a verbal report of findings and actions should be given to the committee for inclusion in the minutes. If subcommittees give Ilona Blanchard the meeting times, dates, and location, she will post them on the City electronic notice board on the City website.

#### **5. Positive Partnering Initiative, ways in which neighbors and college staff can collaborate on efforts to promote the college and its assets for the immediate neighborhood and schools within the area.**

Brad Stewart: The College has met with the principals of Montgomery County schools and so far have discussed 80 different partnerships and would like to create more.

At this campus, the College would like to leverage Fine Arts. There is also the Institute for Local and Global Studies, many programs where faculty teach classes for talented and gifted students, and a program for underachievers that the college believes should have a second chance at success. College also has a line in the budget for two advisory positions for Langley Park. Finally, College is hoping to install a non-profit village on campus.

Sally Brucker: One of the ways that the community could become more involved would be through financial support, volunteering in these programs or fund raising. Jennie Wells: We have many volunteering opportunities.

Arlene Markowicz: the East Silver Spring Association and other organizations could benefit from hearing about Montgomery College.

Next Monday between 6 and 9 PM at 301 Health Science Center, there will be a silent auction for Gateway, a community development organization for the Shepards Park business community.

Paul Chrostowski and Lorraine Pearsall: There are professionals in the neighborhood that could serve in an advisory/ mentor program.

There are also many speaker series from which area residents could benefit, such as the Peck Institute.

**6. Meeting Adjourned.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

**Respectfully Submitted**



Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner

**Approved**



Richard Weil, Chair

**Notes from John McClain (Montgomery College Facilities) presentation 12/13/05, Bliss Room, Montgomery College.**

The College will install heating and cooling utilities (will improve energy efficiency) down the center of New York Avenue and a optic fiber system under the sidewalk on the east side of New York Avenue.

The plans are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the design phase, still have to submit to State and to apply for permits.

There are many existing utilities in the right of way and on the college grounds that constrain the location of these new utilities. The telephone and data optic fiber will be a parallel service to be phased in over 10 years to replace the existing copper service as buildings are renovated.

**Issues of concern to Facilities:**

How to do construction in the least disruptive way possible? MC will have a plan developed later in the design process to maintain access using steel plates and working in segments. At least one lane of traffic will be open during the bulk of the work.

Trees - Exploring options to reroute conduit to keep construction a minimum of 20 feet away from the 34" Oak on the eastern side. Will remove the dying Maple on Evans property. Are coordinating work with City Arborist.

Underground water - If a stream is hit it will be backfilled to the original condition, and excess water pumped out. The plan does not propose changes to the grade and will not affect stormwater flow lines.

The manholes for the heating cooling system will be in the grass area on the campus. The access for the optic fiber will be in the sidewalk - will look into material type for access surface.

The work is scheduled to begin in May and end in late August but will not begin until after May 27th.

There will be tie-ins for all buildings to receive service as they are renovated so will not need excavate the street again.

(March 06 will begin design work for Commons - will meet with MCNAC/neighborhood to discuss design work)

Crosswalks - okay - will look at locations for pedestrian flows now versus future.

Sidewalk - Prefer grass strip which is residential in character, may widen a little, however, in the past the grass survived better, construction may have forced more people to walk on the other side trampling grass strip where forced to switch sides. Could consider widening towards college buildings where more width may be needed. (Note from Ilona - sidewalk will remain 4' in width, with the possible exception of areas in front of College buildings where College may change configuration of sidewalk on College property at the arts building. College is in agreement that sidewalk should remain at 4' on eastern side of the New York Avenue with a 3'5" grass strip (width may vary along street).

When Student Services building opens in the fall most of the Commons, student services, and IT services will move there.